

CAMPAIGN FINANCE DIVISION

☒ **WAIVER REQUEST**
☐ **RECONSIDERATION REQUEST**

DATE: 9/20/2021
DOCKET #:

FILER INFORMATION

Name: Heather Damitio Howell
Office: Council Member, District 5, Town of Amite City
Parish: TANGIPAHOA
Election Date: 11/3/2020
Level of Office: Any

REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: 30-P
Original Due Date: 10/5/2020
Date Filed: 10/16/2020
Activity Receipts: \$500.00
Expenditures: \$500.00
Funds at Close of Reporting Period: \$500.00

LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$440
Days Late: 11
Late Fee Order Received: 5/21/2021
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 6/10/2021
Waiver Request Received: 6/10/2021
Additional Information Requested:

- Medical
- Financial
- Other

COMMENTS: Candidate submitted waiver request by fax and states that she has never done anything remotely this difficult in her life and she seriously doubts she will ever do it again. She said between herself being quarantined and her children being quarantined and her father having dementia it was a very difficult 4 months. She said she also had car trouble and contracted strep throat due to the stress. She only had one contribution of \$500 which she spent on signs. She said she moved the Friday after the campaign so she did not receive the delinquency notices.

OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

Campaign Finance:

Other Outstanding Reports: No
Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
Prior Late Fees: No
Reassessed Late Fees: No

Disclosure Statements:

Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
Prior Late Fees: No

June 10, 2021
Melissa Horn
Program Compliance Officer
La. Board of Ethics
Melissa.horn@la.gov

Re: Request for Waiver of late filing penalties: 30P report
2020 Amite City Council election


Dear Ms. Horn:

Please accept this letter as my formal request for a waiver of my late fee for failing to file certain Candidate's Form for reporting contributions and expenditures. For the November 3, 2020 election I ran for Amite city Council position. First let me say I have never done anything remotely this difficult in my life and I seriously doubt I ever will again. I was quarantined due to possible exposure to COVID-19 and my children were quarantined on 3 separate occasions within the weeks leading up to the primary election. In addition, my father was diagnosed with dementia and I was helping him deal with matters for his law office. While out volunteering for the US Census, I totaled my car when it was submerged in a drainage ditch that was not readily visible. I also developed strep throat during the campaign from all the stress. Therefore, it was a very difficult four months, in addition to my campaigning.

If you look at my reports that I have filed, (30P, 10P and Final Report with no funds) I only received one donation of \$500 which was used for signs. I had five dollars left over in my campaign account. I sent in the reports that I thought were due but I understand they were not timely received. I apologize for failing to confirm the faxing of the reports was successful. I re-submitted all of the reports and understand I must file separate requests for waivers of penalties for each untimely report. Please accept this letter as my apology and request for waiver for anything that I may have forgotten to do or did not turn in timely, and specifically with reference to the 30P Candidate report.

I also moved the Friday after the campaign, so I did not receive any letters requesting information. Unfortunately, mail that was delivered to my prior address was not forwarded to me. My new address is 61325 S. Big Creek Rd., Amite, LA. If there is anything else that is needed, please contact me through that address or by my cell phone 985-687-7325.

Thank you for the kind courtesies of your office.

Sincerely,

Heather Howell
61325 S. Big Creek Road
Amite, La. 70422